

Japanese professor visits BatStateU for Coral Research Projects



Dr. Satoshi Kubota and his former student, Dr. Jayvee Saco, discuss developments for VIP CORALS

Dr. Satoshi Kubota, a Japanese professor from Kochi University, Japan, held a marine science lecture at the university on March 8, wherein around 50 students from the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) and 20 faculty and staff attended.

Dr. Kubota was invited by Dr. Jayvee Saco, center head of Verde Island Passage-Center for Oceanographic Research and Aquatic Life Sciences (VIPCORALS), to lecture on recent coral research projects.

long lecture mainly focused on the basic science of coral research and the presentation of corals from the macroscopic point of view, down to the molecular level. He also highlighted the marine biodiversity hub of the Pacific Ocean bordered by Japan, Taiwan, and the Philippines.

Followed by Dr. Kubota's lecture, Dr. Saco presented the overview and progress of VIP CORALS, a marine research center under BatStateU that will be stationed in BatStateU Lobo.

VIP CORALS is also starting to establish a network consortium with institutions having the same goals, such as Kochi University, an institution renowned for marine research. This is an exciting avenue for the university as various opportunities for exchange programs and research collaborations are expected as a result of the partnership.



Dr. Kubota having an enjoyable discussion with BatStateU researchers

A former food scientist and now a marine scientist, Dr. Kubota began with a hearty introduction about Japanese food culture (sashimi, sushi, etc.). His hour-